

**The Radicalism of the American Revolution**

**By Gordon Wood**

***liberal***-not bound by tradition, open to change

***conservative***-tending to support established institutions, or to maintain existing views or conditions

***radical***-tending to make extreme changes in existing views, habits, conditions, or institutions

***revolution***-a fundamental change in political organization; especially : the overthrow or renunciation of one government or ruler and the substitution of another by the governed

***hierarchy***-the classification of a group of people according to ability or to economic, social, or professional standing

***prosperity***-the condition of being successful or thriving; especially **:** economic well-being

1. To most Americans, which of the following men is not a revolutionary (p. 1, meaning *paragraph* 1):

A. Robespierre

B. Lenin

C. Mao Zedong

D. John Adams

2. (p. 2) Carl Becker was most likely a:

A. Revolutionary

B. Colonial leader

C. Progressive historian

D. Marxist historian

3. (p. 2) The author believes that the American colonists were

A. an oppressed people

B. economically deprived

C. more free and equal than anyone in the world at that time

D. pushed to action by the French and Indian War

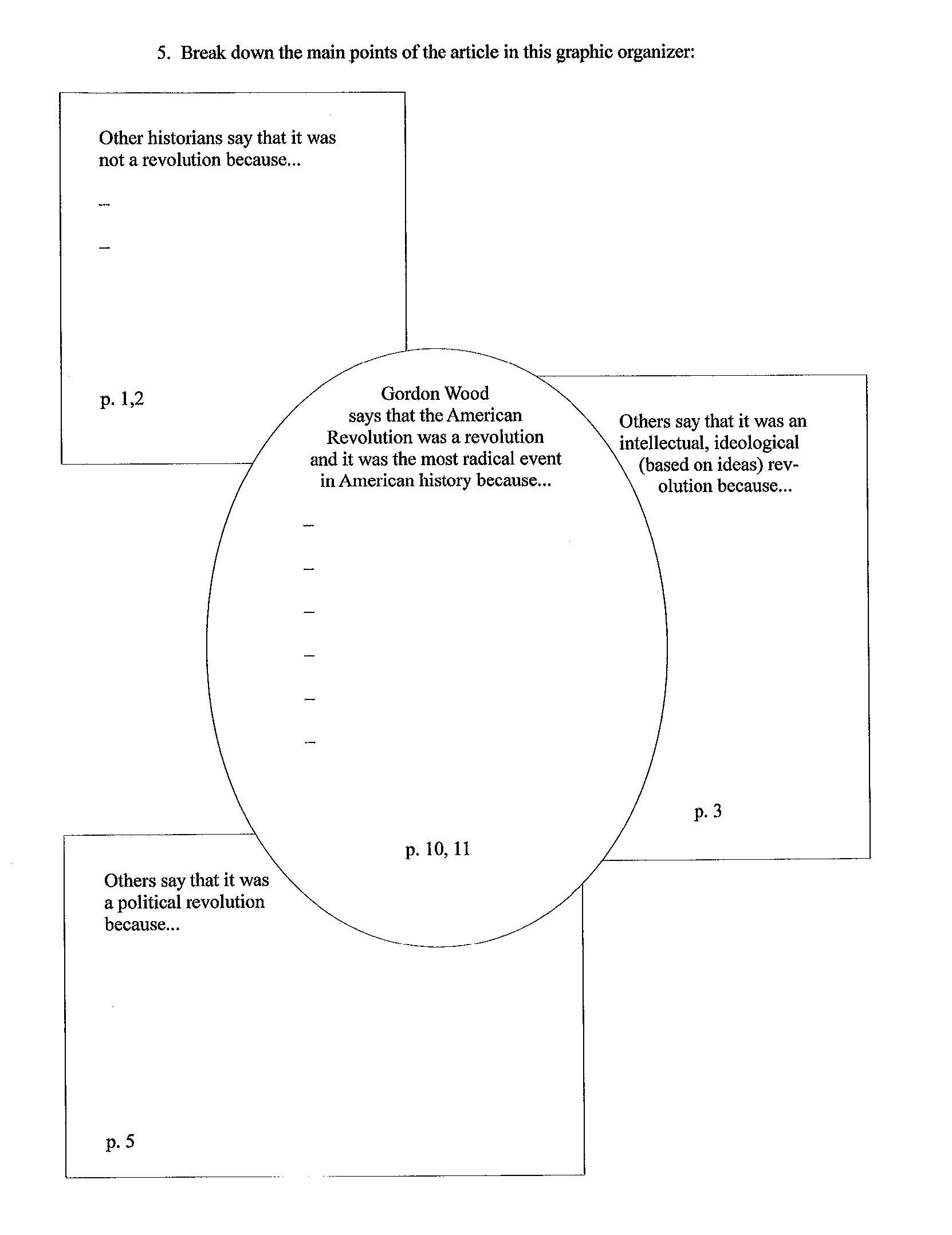
4. In paragraph 3, the author writes, “we have tended to think of the American Revolution as having no social character....” By “we” he does not mean:

A. Himself

B. Americans in general

C. Other historians

D. Progressive historians



6. (p. 5) Wood says that Americans in the 18th century blamed economic and social problems on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , while today we tend to blame them on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. government... capitalism or racism

B. business exploitation... privilege and monopolies

C. class divisions... the government

D. the rich... the monarchy

7. (p. 6) According to the author, when did the revolution end?

A. 1783

B. the eighteenth century

C. about 1810

D. about 1910

8. (p. 8) Which word does not describe Americans after the revolution?

A. commercial

B. liberal

C. democratic

D. monarchical

9. (p. 10-11) The two most important changes of the revolution were that America...

A. respected the aristocracy and the revolution

B. became democratic and capitalist

C. abolished slavery

D. made women equal citizens

**NOT NECESSARY, BUT WORTH THINKING ABOUT:**

10. Short Essay Response (thesis statement with two body paragraphs)

Using information from this article and from class, answer the following question: To what extent was the American Revolution “revolutionary”? In your answer, cover two of the following categories of history: Political, Social, Economic.